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ROLLINS COLLEGE BULLETIN

Report of the President
1908-1909

WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees, February, 1909.

Gentlemen:

As President of Rollins College I have the honor of presenting to the Board of Trustees my sixth annual report.

The year now closing will be chiefly memorable in its history of the institution by the notable advance made in its material equipment. Two new buildings have been erected and are to be dedicated tomorrow to their uses. Carnegie Hall, the gift of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, will house the library and the administrative offices, and Chase Hall, erected in memory of Mr. Loring Augustus Chase, founder of the town of Winter Park and faithful friend of Rollins College, will be a home for young men. To the erection and furnishing of the latter a number of Mr. Chase's boyhood and later friends, and comrades of the Forty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment, have contributed. The largest contributors toward the construction of the building itself were Mr. Frank G. Webster, President of the banking house of Kidder, Peabody & Company, Boston, his son Mr. Lawrence Webster, and Messrs. Stone & Webster, managers of extensive traction properties in Florida and elsewhere; toward the furnishing of the building contributions were made by the following persons:

F. E. Spooner, Chicago; C. L. Smith, Boston; E. K. McKonkey, York, Penn.; Jas. Ronan, Trenton, N. J.; C. H. Morse, Chicago; Mrs. E. L. Mark, Fredonia, N. Y.; S. O. & J. C. Chase, Sanford; W. O. Swett, Chicago; Mrs. Susan O. Barrows, Quincy, Mass.; Miss Carrie O. French, Canton, Mass.; W. A. Hamilton, Winter Park; H. A. Ward, Winter Park; Mrs. Emma Messenger, Boston; Col. Hugh T. Reed, Nantucket, Mass.; W. C. Comstock, Chicago; Capt. J. A. Harris, Winter Park; Col. D. B. Dyer, Augusta, Ga.; W. H. Nichols, New York; Cotrell & Leonard, Albany, N. Y.; and Mrs. E. D. Sumner, Albany, N. Y.

It is very gratifying that Mr. Chase's name should be perpetuated here in the town he founded and loved with unflinching affection by a monument so substantial and so beautiful, and that so many of his friends should have associated themselves in honoring his memory. These buildings will not only add greatly to our facilities for work, but they are, it seems to me, of altogether remarkable beauty of line and loveliness of color. Of gray sand-lime brick, with stone trimmings and red clay-tile roof, in the Spanish style, they will be a source of perpetual beauty to the eye, an education to the young people who shall see them and work within their walls.

The contract price of Carnegie Hall was \$17,743.44, and of Chase Hall \$14,797.03. The change from metal to clay tile roof, the building of a capacious vault in the basement and several other minor changes which it was found desirable to make as the work progressed, increased the total cost of Carnegie Hall by about twelve hundred dollars, and that of Chase Hall by about two hundred dollars; so that each building cost when completed a trifle less than the amount appropriated.

The contracts were let at a time when the cost of lumber,

brick, cement, and other materials was at the lowest level in years, and the bid of W. P. Richardson & Co. was considerably lower than any other of the five bids made, lower by \$9,210.00 than the highest of these other bids. In view of these two facts I think we may reasonably feel assured that we have secured in these two buildings "the worth of our money."

The planning of these two halls, the securing of the necessary funds for their erection, and the close attention which I have felt that I ought to give to every detail of their construction have of necessity occupied the major part of my time during the past year. It is a pleasure to make grateful mention here of the unstinted co-operation in this task which has been given me by all those who have had to do with it—by the architects, Messrs. Whitfield & King, of New York, whose fine taste, sound judgment, wide experience, and enthusiasm for their art I have been able to command at any moment from start to finish; by the contractor, Mr. W. P. Richardson, of Jacksonville, and by his foreman, Mr. Samuel Moore, both of them capable, careful and fair-minded; by Mr. John Diffenderfer and Mr. B. W. Stone, our assistants on the campus; by Mr. O'Neal, who in this enterprise as always has given time and attention without limit to the college which he has loved and served so long as treasurer; and by Mrs. Blackman—if I may be pardoned for mentioning her—whose vigilant eye and wise counsel have prevented mistakes and suggested improvements at every step.

In my report of last year, I suggested the need of removing Cloverleaf Cottage and the dining hall in order to provide suitable sites for the new buildings, of enlarging the campus area, and of providing a new water supply system. These suggestions were adopted by the Board, and four of its mem-

bers subscribed \$7,500.00 for these purposes and for other expenses, a response prompt, spontaneous and generous far beyond anything I had anticipated. After careful deliberation, the Executive Committee decided to install a Kewanee boiler, with six and four inch mains, and with risers and fire hose in each building old and new; and this system is now in operation and open to your inspection. It appears to me to be admirable in all respects except that there is an insufficient quantity of water available in case of fire. We must look forward to the purchase of a second boiler connected with the first, or else to the installation of a fire pump of large capacity.

Cloverleaf Cottage, the dining hall, and the Art Studio were moved in the early summer by Messrs. Arnout and Hopkins of Jacksonville, to the site where you now see them. At the same time the campus was extended by the building of a driveway and walk, edged by a double row of water-oaks, nearly five hundred feet to the westward; this necessitated the grubbing and grassing of a large area. The removal of Cloverleaf Cottage to its present sloping site made necessary a considerable amount of excavating and the building of a new foundation for the cottage, and this enabled us to place the heating apparatus under instead of outside the building as heretofore, and gave us a capacious trunk and storage room which was greatly needed. We also took advantage of this opportunity to install a small hot-air furnace in the basement, supplementary to the old heating plant, which had always been seriously inadequate. Practically the entire building had to be replastered after its removal. The moving of the dining hall made necessary the clearing away of trees and shrubs, the grubbing up of roots, the grading of the ground, and the planting of grass, over a considerable space; this has much enlarged

the campus to the eastward, and beautified it. A fence was built along the highway from Knowles Hall to Lake Virginia, enclosing within the campus the wooded tract recently given to the college by Mr. C. H. Morse, and a driveway established through this tract to the new pumping plant. It was felt that it was desirable also to clear a part of the lake margin hitherto covered with a dense hammock growth, so as to open up vistas of Lake Virginia from the terrace of Chase Hall. A large amount of expensive filling had to be done about Carnegie Hall, on account of the depression of its site. All the buildings, new and old, were supplied with risers, and hose and brackets, on every floor, and the entire campus fitted with fire plugs, connected with the Kewanee boiler by a six-inch main. Water closets were placed in Cloverleaf and Pinehurst Cottages, and the exterior of Cloverleaf, of the dining hall, and of the art studio were painted. Most of this work was obviously necessitated by the erection of the two new buildings and it has been expensive, greatly exceeding the funds available for this purpose. Meantime, the necessity of securing furniture for the two new buildings and books for the library was upon me, so that I was not able to collect money for the campus improvements, additional to the very generous but inadequate sums pledged for this purpose at the last annual meeting by the members of this Board; hence, a disagreeable deficit which it will be necessary for us to face and discuss.

There is still need of other buildings, as I suggested last year, if we are to compete on an even footing with our sister institutions. The need of a Science Hall is immediate and pressing, and the need of a hall of arts, in which the departments of music, fine arts and the domestic and industrial arts should be housed, is hardly less so. I foresee the time also, when our

present water supply system which is now exposed to the weather, will be housed in a building similar in material and style to Carnegie and Chase Halls—artistic though devoted to practical uses—which will contain not only the pump and boiler, but also a laundry, a small machine shop, and an apparatus for the engendering of electricity and power for all campus uses and perhaps for the use of the town as well.

As suggesting the next step forward in this development, I take great pleasure in reading to you the following letter from Mr. James Bertram, private secretary to Mr. Andrew Carnegie, dated January 19th, 1909:

“Responding to yours of January 15th and other communications with regard to a Science Building for Rollins College, Mr. Carnegie will be glad to provide twenty-five thousand dollars for the erection of a Science Building, provided you get twenty-five thousand dollars new endowment to be devoted to maintenance of the Science Department.”

A second and larger gift from Mr. Carnegie, following after so short an interval the first, seems to indicate his satisfaction with the way in which we met his former offer, and his confidence in the future of the college. Our need of the Science Hall is pressing and obvious, but you can hardly blame me if after the unceasing struggle of the past five years to meet conditional offers of this sort, I feel a certain depression of spirits, as well as elation, in view of the task which is thus set before us. The difficulty is not so much in meeting the conditions imposed, and in raising these large sums; the difficulty, rather, is that with every successful effort to increase our endowment or our equipment, we necessarily fall farther behind in meeting our ordinary and current expenses. The net result, indeed, is a large increase in our assets, but this is inevitably

accompanied—there being only twelve months in a year and twenty-four hours in a day, and human strength having its limits—by a deficit of monies available for the payment of salaries and other ordinary expenses of administration.

This deficit is larger this year because, in addition to the extensions and improvements which I have just mentioned, I have found it necessary to raise money for the furnishing of the new buildings, and for the purchase of books. I have already alluded to the funds which I have secured from friends of Mr. Chase for the furnishing of Chase Hall, and I expect still other gifts for this purpose; in addition, I have received gifts amounting to some seventeen hundred dollars for the purchase of books, from the following friends: A. E. Angier, Boston; Berkeley Blackman, Oxford, England; Professor Chapman's Entertainment through Miss Lord; the Congregational Church of Medina, O., through Rev. Dr. Kirbye; Mrs. Helen P. Camp, Waterbury, Conn.; "Extra Cent a Day Band," Auburndale, Mass.; Rev. M. Ross Fishburn, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Emma M. Davis, Newton, Mass.; J. S. Duss, New York; Mrs. T. L. Day, Chester, Conn.; Rev. E. P. Herrick, Matanzas, Cuba; Miss Elizabeth G. Houghton, Brookline, Mass.; Ralph W. Harbison, Pittsburg, Penn.; J. H. P. Hughart, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Rev. J. E. Kirbye, Medina, O.; F. W. Lyman, Minneapolis, Minn.; Mrs. Samuel Mather, Cleveland, O., since deceased; Mrs. H. D. Noyes, Boston, Mass.; Mrs. Cornelia W. C. Porter, Orlando; Prof. Francis Peabody, Harvard University; Mrs. Sarah F. Smith, Lynn, Mass.; Mrs. E. A. Saunders, South Bend, Ind.; Mrs. Caroline J. Simen, Allegheny, Penn.; Mrs. Marcia L. Roberts, Brooklyn, N. Y.; and Miss Elizabeth W. White, Washington, D. C.

In addition to these cash donations for the purchase of books, several hundred volumes have been sent or promised to us from the private libraries of the following friends: H. S. Ludlow, Troy, N. Y.; Rev. Dan F. Bradley, D. D., Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. Louisa G. Lane, Norwich Town, Conn.; Miss E. L. Gilman, Norwich Town, Conn.; John Wanamaker, New York; The Macmillan Company, New York; Miss Sarah K. Burgess, Dedham, Mass.; Rev. Samuel W. Dike LL. D., Auburndale, Mass.; Rev. John Harrington Edwards, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Prof. Frank Sargent Hoffman, Schenectady, N. Y.; The American Swedenborg Printing and Publishing Society, New York; Rev. A. W. Hazen and Lucius R. Hazen, Middletown, Conn.; Wm. C. Lane, Librarian of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; The Misses Libby, Portland, Me.; Geo. D. Rand, Auburndale, Mass., formerly of Winter Park, and the architect of several of our earliest buildings; John C. Schwab, Librarian of Yale University, New Haven, Conn.; Prof F. B. Dexter, Yale University; Rev. Henry A. Stimson, D. D., New York; Miss Stimson, New York; Prof. Geo. Lansing Raymond, L. H. D., Washington, D. C.; Rev. Samuel Leeds, D. D., Hanover, N. H.; Prof. John Bascom, LL. D., Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.; Charles P. Chase, Treas., Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.; Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Price, Ormond, Fla.; Mrs. Amzi L. Barber, Ardsley Towers, N. Y.; Frederick Galatin, New York; Prof. Geo. M. Duncan, LL. D., Yale University; Rev. Wm. R. Campbell, D. D., President of the Congregational Education Society, Boston, Mass.; Rev. Philip S. Moxom, D. D., Springfield, Mass.; D. H. Terry, Bridgeport, Conn.; James B. Dill, New York; Rev. Charles Ray Palmer, D. D., New Haven, Conn.; Mrs. H. D. Noyes, Boston, Mass.; E. M. Condit, Daytona; Rev. C. A. S. Dwight, Winchester,

Mass.; S. H. Wheeler, Bridgeport, Conn.; and E. P. Dulton & Co., New York.

Carnegie Hall will shelve, I judge, nearly twenty thousand volumes in the reading room and above one hundred thousand volumes in the stack rooms on the second floor. Until these upper rooms are needed for books they will be used as class rooms, excepting the large room on the west which will be set apart temporarily for the use of the Young Women's Christian Association, the Kappa Epsilon Sorority, and such other literary or social societies as may be formed among the young ladies of the college. The building also provides capacious offices for the President and his secretary, the Treasurer and Bursar, and the Dean. The officers of the institution have always heretofore suffered serious inconvenience for lack of suitable apartments, suitably equipped for their work; they will now have everything that could reasonably be desired in this line. It will be particularly advantageous to have all of the records, accounts, and correspondence of the institution at hand, instead of a considerable part of it being in Orlando, as has heretofore from necessity been the case. Carnegie Hall, I should add, is supplied throughout with heavy and handsome Mission furniture and library and filing devices which ought to last a life-time.

And now that a suitable and beautiful building is provided for the library, the need becomes exigent of an endowment whose income shall be devoted to the purchase of books and of scientific journals. A productive fund of \$20,000 would insure, not a rapid, indeed, but a constant, addition of those works, classical and new, which are needed by teachers and pupils alike if we are to maintain a healthy intellectual life and to keep abreast of the world's scholarship. The building itself

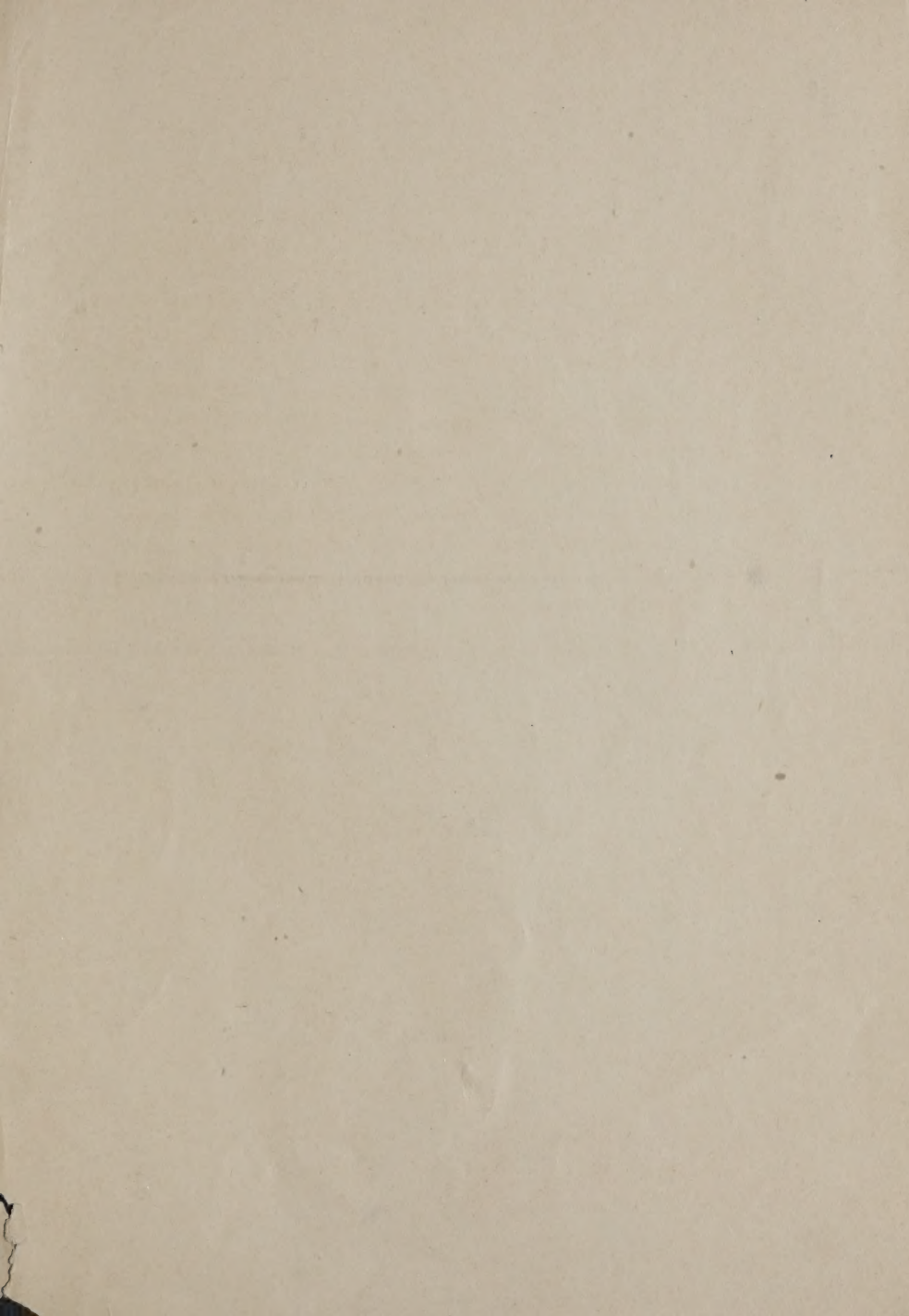
is named Carnegie Hall, but the library of books which it is to contain might well bear another name—is there not someone among the friends of Rollins who will welcome this opportunity to establish a memorial to some dear and lost friend, a memorial fine and useful from the first, and ever increasing in amplitude and value through the years?

I do not know any of the smaller colleges so fortunate as is Rollins in the number and the unfailing generosity of its friends; this is testified to afresh by the list of donors for the last fiscal year which is appended to the Treasurer's report, as well as by the list of those who have contributed to the furnishing of Chase Hall and the purchase of books. One of the most highly appreciated gifts of the year has been the portraits of former presidents, trustees, donors and teachers which they themselves or their surviving friends have given us at my solicitation, and which adorn the walls of this office. The faces represented are those of Dr. Edward Payson Hooker, first president of the college; Dr. George Morgan Ward, my immediate predecessor in this office; the Rev. Dr. O. C. Morse, for some years vice-president, whose hearty and efficient co-operation in securing the Endowment Fund of the college I shall always recall with gratitude; Mr. F. W. Lyman, long president of this Board and still a member of our Executive Committee; Dr. Henry Foster, trustee and firm friend in the early days; Mr. Henry Huntington, for many years treasurer of the college; Rev. Sullivan F. Gale, D. D., trustee and faithful counselor from the first; Mr. Frank B. Knowles, to whose lavish gifts the institution and the town owe so much; Maj. Wyllis G. Peck and the Rev. G. M. Alden, for many years members of the Executive Committee; Mr. John Howard Whittemore, my very dear friend for many years, and a former trustee, whose

generous assistance in times of crisis was of incalculable advantage to the institution; and Professors L. A. Austin and Nathan Barrows, the ripe scholars and great teachers of the early times. Finding it impossible to secure a suitable photograph of Dr. D. K. Pearsons, our largest benefactor, I have had enlarged a picture which shows him and his wife, whose winter among us and whose gracious and lovely character we can never forget—that Mrs. Blackman and myself also appear in this photograph is an incident which was unavoidable and for which I, therefore, need not apologize. These portraits all help to preserve in pictorial form the historic continuity of the college; besides, I shall myself find company and good cheer in these familiar and loved faces, so long as I shall continue to occupy this room. To this collection there will be added very soon, I trust, the portraits of President Fairchild; of the Rev. M. C. Welch and the Rev. Mason Noble, who had much to do with the establishment and the early direction of the college; of Professor John H. Ford, for years one of the foremost teachers at Rollins and one of the most respected and useful citizens of the town, and for a time acting-president; and of Mr. William C. Comstock, citizen of Winter Park long before such a town existed, trustee and member of the Executive and Investment Committees these many years, whose presence here today forbids my saying all that is in my heart concerning him and his unstinted and unfailing generosity toward this institution.

You will recall that a retiring grant was assigned last year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to Professor Frances Ellen Lord; it is with peculiar gratification that I am able to announce that similar grants have been made to Professor Thomas Rakestraw Baker and Professor

Susan A. Longwell, to take effect whenever their work as teachers here shall come to an end. Dr. Baker has been with us sixteen years and Professor Longwell twelve years; during all the period of their connection with Rollins, they have consecrated wholly their uncommon gifts of mind, their culture, their physical strength, and the love of their hearts to the work of the institution, and it is beyond words gratifying to us all to know that the needs of their age, as it shall come on, will be securely provided for. I recommend that the Board express to Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, President of the Carnegie Foundation, and his associates its profound appreciation of the confidence in the high standards maintained and the good work done at Rollins which they have manifested by placing these three teachers on their retiring list.



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